



St. Austin's Catholic Primary School

A Catholic Voluntary Academy

Weekly Newsletter: Friday 16th March 2018

No: 23



Lent—A time to examine our lives, to make Lenten promises and to make a fresh start.

This Sunday's Gospel reminds us why the death of Jesus on Good Friday was necessary to allow us to have eternal life. When we commit to our faith we commit to making Jesus our most important priority and this is the challenge for us all in the busy lives we lead. We are promised happiness in this life and in the life to come if we face the challenge and choose to commit to following Jesus. Whenever we are kind, or helpful, when we put others' needs before our own and when we try to make peace with others we are demonstrating that we are followers of Jesus.

Pope Francis reminds us 'to follow Jesus means to share his merciful love for every human being.'

As we move closer to the Feast of Easter we thank God for the for giving his life for us and for calling us to follow him. Help us to be faithful followers so that our world may become a better place. Amen

Week beginning Monday 12th March

Monday 12th March

Lunchtime Rosary Group

After School Club: Netball with Miss Balmond

Tuesday 13th March

No after school clubs due to parents evenings

Wednesday 14th March

After School Club: Football with Elite Coaching

Thursday 15th March

After School Club: Choir with Mr. Molyneux and Mrs. Willis

Yr 2 Booster classes

Friday 16th March

After School Club: Dance with Elite Coaching

Adverse Weather Conditions

It is always worth pointing out at this time of year that we aim to keep the school open at all times. But at no point will we ever compromise anyone's safety—staff, parents or pupils. Should it be necessary to close the school we will let you know by text and on our website. If we need to close school early due to bad weather we will notify by our text service.

Illustrator and author visit

Yesterday our year 5 and 6's had a visit from illustrator and author Stephen Waterhouse. He conducted an assembly in the morning to show the children some of his work and then throughout the rest of the day he went into each class to do some workshops, showing the children how he illustrates and engaging them in all sorts of drawing and writing activities.

Stephen brought with him some of his fantastic pop-up books and these are available to purchase through school. With this newsletter you will receive an order form. If you would like to purchase any of the books please complete the form and return to school with payment by 23rd March.

Parking

I am acutely aware of the difficulties along Back Duke of York street that have been brought to my attention this week. I am aware that traffic wardens are intending patrolling the area more regularly but at the same time I also wish you to understand that I have no jurisdiction beyond the school gates. This is frustrating for everyone who uses that route into school and a severe I ask that people park with pedestrians safe passage in mind thank you.

This Week in school

We welcomed back Miss Connolly a teaching student on her final placement who will be working with Miss Workman and children in her class over the next few weeks. On Tuesday our pupils in Year 6 continued with their 'Luggage For Life' programme as part of their preparation for moving to high school in September. Unfortunately, Fr Simon had to cancel our class mass this week as he was not very well. We hope he is feeling better soon. Also, on Wednesday representatives from the NSPCC came into school to do separate presentations for KS1 and KS2. They then ran workshops for our 3 classes in upper KS2. We also took the opportunity to present prizes to the winners of the hand writing competitions that were held in each class and to those children who won the best book character competition held last Thursday in school. We have had a number of visitors in school this week interested in the Teaching posts that we are currently recruiting to. The Book Fair has arrived in school and will be available during Parents Evenings next week.

Hot Chocolate Friday

The following children have been rewarded with 'Hot Chocolate with the Head' for their super behaviour and excellent attitude towards all aspects of school.

Class RW –Milena Bury

Class RK – Nicole Mullet

Class 1T– Yusuf Khan

Class 1/2C– Lyanna Manuel

Class 2V –Tia Fretwell

Class 3W – Cruz Munsami

Class 3/4JT–Jakub Luczynski

Class 4N– Zaara Hussain

Class 5B–Kesiya Joseph

Class 5/6C– Fatima Noor

Class 6CD– Sivin Viji

Attendance

Congratulations to 2V who are this week's KS1 attendance winners with 100%

In KS2 the winners this week are 3/4 JT with an attendance of 98%.



Easter Egg Bonanza

The towers of Easter eggs are starting to appear already in some classes, children can bring donations of eggs in at any time over the next two weeks. Raffle tickets are now on sale 20p per ticket. Children will be able to purchase raffle tickets as they wish, giving them a chance of winning one or more eggs on display during a special assembly in the last week of term. Last year we raised over £500 for the Good Shepherd fund. Thank you for your continued support.

Parent Evenings

Parent and teacher consultations are taking place next week on Tuesday 20th March from 5-8pm and Wednesday 21st March from 4-6pm. A letter explaining how to book on line was sent out at the beginning of the week.

Go to <http://www.parents-booking.co.uk/staustinscatholicprimary>

PLEASE NOTE: You need to type this address into your website browser's

'address bar'. Do not try to 'Google' this website address or use a search engine as that will not work. This is a common mistake on phones and tablets especially.

Travelling Book fair

Book fair is in school from tomorrow and books will be available to buy on Tuesday and Wednesday parents evenings and during the day if parents would like to send money in with their child. (In an envelope with their name on please) Children will get the opportunity on Monday or Tuesday to have a look at the books before they purchase them.

OFSTED

Our school is now in the window for inspection and when it happens school will be notified the day before the inspection begins. We don't know when this will be.

Parent Voice is a website that can be used by parents to share their views about our school. You can access it at:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results>

We hope that any worries you have had will have been shared with us previously. It is important for those happy with what we offer your children at St Austin's that you contribute to this web page too. Thank you.

Water bottles

Please can you check that your child remembers to bring back their water bottle on a Monday so they are available for them during the day. Thank you.

Sporting Winners

Congratulations to our school netball team and Miss Balmond as they were winners of the BKCAT netball competition. This allowed them to progress to the 5 Towns Tournament on Tuesday where they finished 3rd. We are very proud of everything that they have achieved. Well done!

On Friday 18th May it's the turn of our footballers when they will be participating in the BKCAT football tournament at Holy Family and St Michael's. We wish them every success.

School Holiday Dates—Spring and Summer Terms

School closes for Easter:	Wednesday 28th March
School re-opens:	Monday 9th April
School closed for May Day Bank Holiday:	Monday 7th May

Class Masses and the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday 21st March—Y5B—9.30am
Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place on Wednesday 21st March this will be an opportunity for children in Years 4-6 to go to confession during Lent.

Internet and online safety: Did you know?

Ofcom statistics state:

53% of 3-4 year olds go online for an average of 7h 55m per week
79% of 5-7 year olds go online for an average of 9h 06m per week
94% of 8-11 year olds go online for an average of 13h 24m per week

We have many opportunities when we as teachers and parents can explore the online world to help them to understand how they can keep themselves safe on line.

Visit net-aware.org.uk if you want to find out more about suitable apps and websites.

Parish Mass times this weekend are:

St Austin's:

Saturday at 6.15pm, Sunday at 8.15am, 11am and 6pm

SS Peter & Paul's

Saturday at 5pm, Sunday at 9am and 10.45am

For further information please see the newsletters on the parish websites: www.peterpaul.org.uk and smartinswakefield.org/index.

Mr K Flood
Headteacher

Mr J Molyneux
Deputy Headteacher